

## **News for Immediate Release**

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## **DWR Activates Online Submittal System For Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program**

**SACRAMENTO** -- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has activated the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program online submittal system for agencies to notify DWR of their intent to become a monitoring entity.

January 1, 2011 is the deadline for prospective monitoring entities to notify DWR of their intent as specified in the California Water Code, Section 10928. In early 2011, the system will be expanded to allow monitoring entities and cooperating agencies to submit monitoring plans, groundwater elevation data, and other information.

Enacted in 2009 with the passage of Senate Bill X7 6, CASGEM establishes a basis for collaboration between local monitoring parties and DWR to collect groundwater elevation information statewide and make that information available to the public. The legislation does not call for mandatory groundwater regulation. It is a voluntary program.

The system includes a help file to assist users with the notification process. The online submittal system can be accessed through the CASGEM Web site:

http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem/

DWR has also finalized the following documents for implementation of the CASGEM Program:

- CASGEM Procedures for Monitoring Entity Reporting, December 2010
- DWR Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Guidelines, December 2010

Those documents, as well as a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document, are available at http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem.

A Web mailing list has been created to provide subscribers with periodic email messages notifying them of important news and announcements related to CASGEM, updates to the Web site, and availability of documents released on the Web site.

To subscribe to the CASGEM mailing list, visit: <a href="http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem/register">http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem/register</a>

If you have questions, please feel free to contact <u>Mary Scruggs</u> at (916) 654-1324, or any of the following contacts in the DWR Region Offices:

Northern Region Office, Kelly Staton, (530) 529-7344

North Central Region Office, Chris Bonds, (916) 376-9657

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.